#### **AFRH-Gulfport Facility**

AFRH continues to work with DOD, OMB and Congress for funding to support the reopening of the Gulfport facility.

## Hurricane Katrina Photographs

#### **Gulfport Resident Pack Out**

At this time AFRH-G has power for lights, elevators and AC, the process of packing out resident rooms will begin. A bonded, reputable contractor is accomplishing the pack out of your belongings with close monitoring by AFRH-G staff.

For AFRH-G residents at the DC campus: All the belongings in your room and any items you may have in storage areas will be boxed and shipped to DC. If you have items that you need immediately, such as medications or prescriptions, important paperwork, or valuables, please contact Becki at 228-871-2035 and arrangements will be made to have those items shipped to you in advance. You my also submit a list of personal items to the Admissions Office in the Scott Building Room 1006 which will be sent forward to Becki.

For AFRH-G residents that wish to pick up their belongings: You must coordinate the pick up of your items with Becki at 228-871-2035. Residents may pick up their items between 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. We can pack up your room for you and have it ready for pick up or you can pack up your own room. If you choose to pack up your own room, these are the requirements:

- Call Becki and give her advance notice (at least a week) of when you will be arriving for pack your things.
- Transportation will be your responsibility.
- We will provide boxes for packing. If you choose to do your own packing, be aware that we may or may not have staff on hand to assist you. If you know in advance that you need assistance, please let us know.

For AFRH-G residents that want their belongings shipped to other than DC: Call Becki at 228-871-2035 and give her the address to ship your belongings. The packing and shipping of resident belongings will be done in a timely fashion, floor by floor, and everything in the room will be shipped.

# <u>Hurricane Katrina contact line - toll free 800-332-3527</u>

Family members and friends wishing to contact residents residing on the Washington campus: Please e-mail us at AFRH-G.MSG-Board@afrh.gov and leave the resident's name, your name, and a telephone number. All messages will be delivered as soon as possible.

## Message to our Friends and Supporters

When Hurricane Katrina destroyed our Gulfport facility, we scrambled to safely evacuate hundreds of our residents, bring them to Washington and prepare abandoned buildings for their use. We could not have done it without your help and support. Hundreds of caring individuals donated money, clothing, toiletries and household goods and worked side by side with us to clean dormitories and welcome our heroes to our campus. We will always be grateful.

The Home has been overwhelmed by donations as our veterans settle in. As they adjust to new surroundings, their needs are changing. We no longer need toiletries or most items of clothing. Many of the Gulfport residents still need new winter clothing such as hats and gloves, scarves, sweaters, jackets and coats, so we will gratefully welcome those items.

We are expanding our ``Adopt a Veteran'' program to match volunteers with our veterans. While the residents in our assisted living and long term care programs always welcome visitors, our independent living residents are also eager to go to a ball game, visit a museum, attend a concert, go shopping and engage in other activities in the Capital area.

Interested volunteers can call the volunteer office directly at 800-332-3527 or sign up on line by clicking for a link to our volunteer page.

Thank you for your extraordinary support of our residents. We do not know how long our residents from Mississippi will stay in Washington. The process of evaluating the extensive damage to the Gulfport facility is underway. But while they are here, we want them to enjoy the capital city and we welcome any help you can provide to make them feel at home here. For more information please visit our <u>volunteer page</u> located at www.afrh.gov/afrh/employment/afrhvolunteer.htm